

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Page 2, penultimate paragraph:**

The invention provides the advantage that conflicts within a rule set can be identified in a systematic and reliable way. Moreover the provision of the semantic data allows a computer or other machine performing the invention to interpret the system rules consistently in accordance with the relative meanings placed thereon by the semantic data. ~~This whilst~~ Thus, while such a machine can never understand the actual meanings of the rules, the semantic data by presenting the semantic relationships between the various possible rules allows such a machine to understand the relative semantics between each rule.

**Page 9, first paragraph:**

With reference to Figure [[2]] 4, the internal components of the computer system 1 include a mother board upon which is mounted system memory 118 which itself comprises random access memory 120, and read only memory 130. In addition, a system bus 140 is provided which couples various system components including the system memory 118 with a processing unit 152. Also coupled to the system bus 140 are a graphics card 150 for providing a video output to the monitor 102; a parallel port interface 154 which provides an input and output interface to the system and in this embodiment provides a control output to the printer 108; and a floppy disk drive interface 156 which controls the floppy disk drive 112 so as to read data from any floppy disk inserted therein, or to write data thereto. In addition, also coupled to the system bus 140 are a sound card 158 which provides an audio output signal to the speakers 114; an

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optical drive interface 160 which controls the optical disk drive 110 so as to read data from and write data to a removable optical disk inserted therein; and a serial port output interface to and from the system. In this case, the serial port interface provides an input port for the keyboard 104, and the pointing device 106, which may be a track ball, mouse, or the like.